

US009384248B2

(12) United States Patent

Ryman

(10) **Patent No.:**

US 9,384,248 B2

(45) **Date of Patent:**

*Jul. 5, 2016

(54) DATABASE QUERY LANGUAGE GATEWAY

(71) Applicant: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, NY (US)

- (72) Inventor: Arthur G. Ryman, Markham (CA)
- (73) Assignee: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION,

Armonk, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 12 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

- (21) Appl. No.: 13/914,107
- (22) Filed: Jun. 10, 2013
- (65) Prior Publication Data

US 2014/0025694 A1 Jan. 23, 2014

Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation of application No. 13/494,153, filed on Jun. 12, 2012, now Pat. No. 9,183,265.
- (51) Int. Cl. G06F 17/30 (2006.01)
- (52) U.S. CI. CPC *G06F 17/30569* (2013.01); *G06F 17/30448* (2013.01)
- (58) Field of Classification Search

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,859,972	A *	1/1999	Subramaniam G06F 17/30569 707/999.003		
6,778,983	B1*	8/2004	Bates G06F 17/30427		
7,099,891		8/2006	Harris G06F 17/30569		
			707/754		
7,587,447		9/2009	Ryman		
7,685,304	B2 *	3/2010	Kothari H04L 67/02		
			709/223		
7,730,034	B1 *	6/2010	Deflaux G06F 17/30557		
			707/654		
7,783,720	B1*	8/2010	Allavarpu G06F 9/541		
			709/203		
RE43,065	E *	1/2012	Grohn 370/351		
8,429,179	B1*	4/2013	Mirhaji 707/756		
(Continued)					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 2296094 A1 3/2011 OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Jones et al. ("reportable rest services interfaces", Version 3.0, open-services.net, Jul. 30, 2009).*

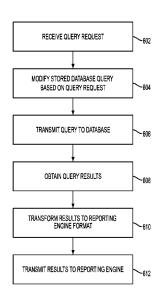
(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Phuong Thao Cao (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Cantor Colburn LLP; Ryan Lewis

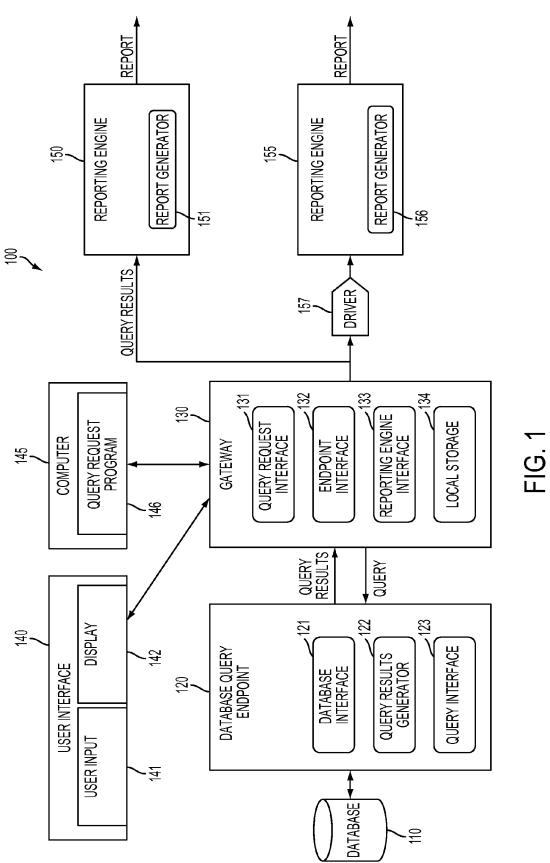
(57) ABSTRACT

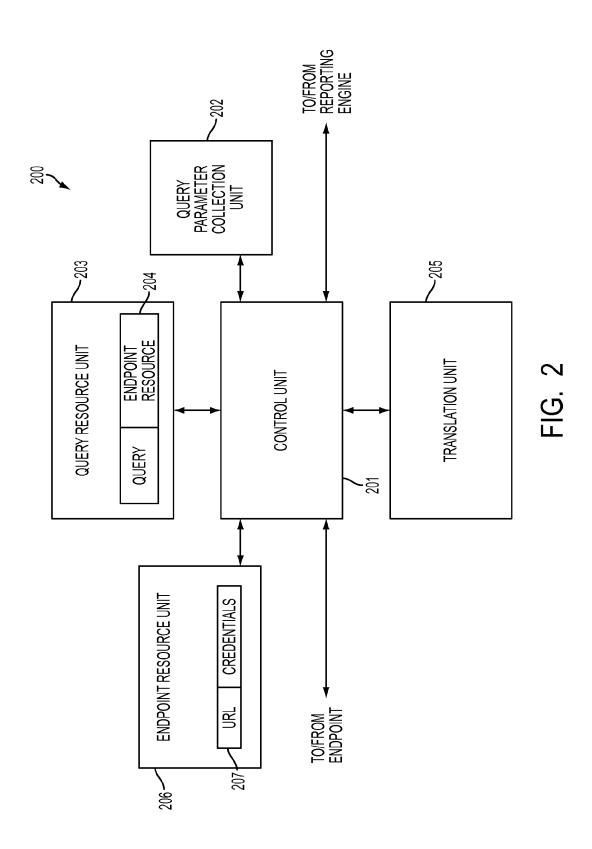
A method includes receiving a query request, generating a modified query in a database query language by modifying a stored query in the database query language based on the query request, and transmitting the modified query to a database endpoint. The method includes receiving query results in the database query language and converting by the processor the query results from the database query language to a format usable by a reporting engine.

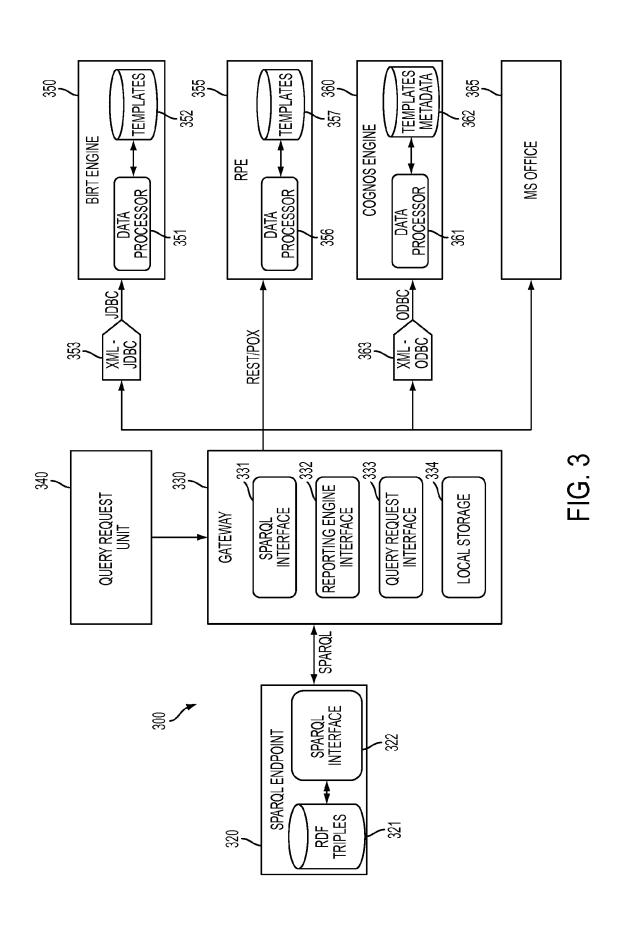
8 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

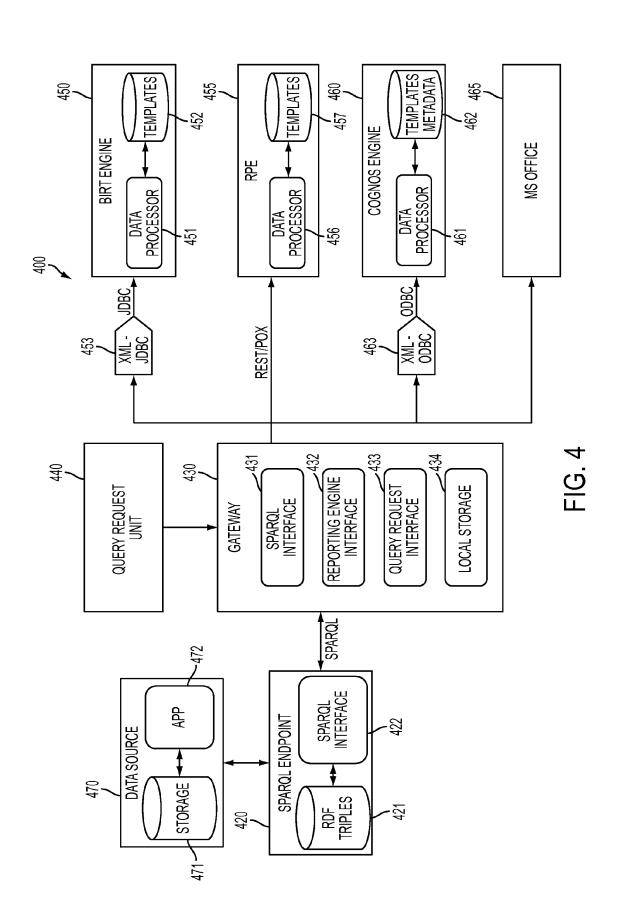


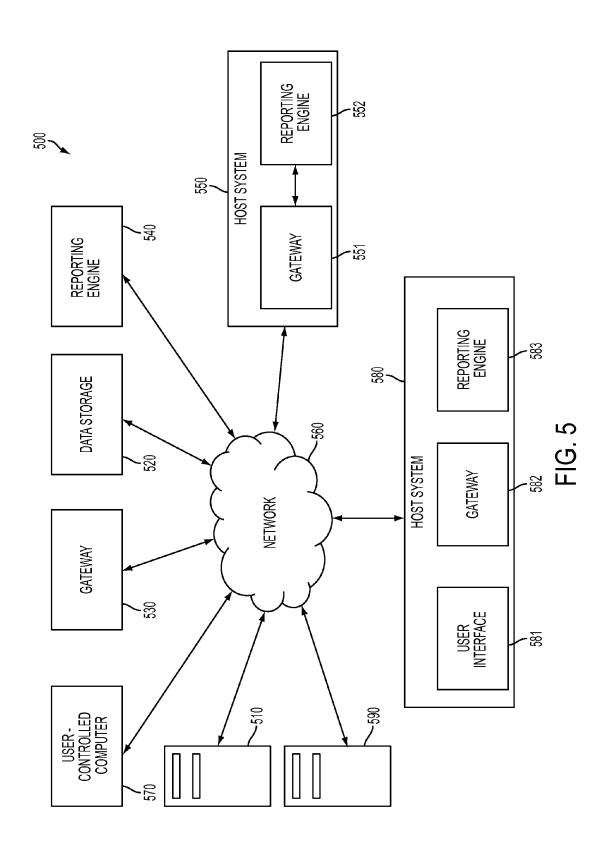
(56)		Referen	ces Cited	2014/0280494 A1* 9/2014 Samoylenko H04L 67/10 709/203
	U.S.	PATENT	DOCUMENTS	2014/0358890 A1* 12/2014 Chen
8,429,189	B1 *	4/2013	Spielberg G06F 17/30424 707/770	2015/0128280 A1* 5/2015 Messer H04L 63/1433 726/25
8,789,012 2005/0080791			Tolle	OTHER PUBLICATIONS
2006/0034270	A1*		Haase H04L 29/06027 370/389	Hartig et al. ("The SPARQL Query Graph Model for Query Optimi-
2006/0190501			Massironi G06F 17/30569	zation"; The Semantic Web: Research and Applications, 2007—
2008/0120281			Marceau G06F 17/30893	Springer).*
2008/0140861	A1*	6/2008	Kothari H04L 69/08	Oracle Data Sheet, "Oracle Database Gateways", copyright 2007, 3
			709/246	pages, accessed online at http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/da-
2008/0178278	A1*	7/2008	Grinstein H04L 63/0227	tabase/gateways/gateways-fov-133149.pdf> on Nov. 27, 2015.*
			726/12	Elkstein, M., "Learn REST: A Tutorial", 5 pages, accessed online at
2008/0201234	A1*	8/2008	Castro G06Q 30/0601	http://rest.elkstein.org/ on Nov. 28, 2015.**
			705/26.1	Lanthaler et al., "Seamless Integration of RESTfull Services into the
2008/0201338	A1*	8/2008	Castro G06F 17/3056	Web of Data", Hindawi Publishing Corporation, Advances in Multi-
2009/0187573		7/2009	Johnston et al.	media, vol. 2012, Article ID 586542, 14 pages, accepted date Jan. 15,
2010/0145946			Conrad G06F 17/30887	2012.*
2010/01/135/10	111	0,2010	707/736	"Apache Jena—Fuseki: serving RDF data over HTTP", [http://
2010/0198778	A 1 *	9/2010	Venugopal et al 707/602	
2010/0198778			Rao et al.	openjena.org/wiki/Fuseki] pp. 1-7, (Copyright 2011-2012).
2011/0029548			Enenkiel	A. Cernian et al., "An Architecture for a Semantic Web Management
2011/0029348			Burch H04L 63/08	System", Computing in the Global Information Technology, ICCGI
2011/00411/1	AI.	2/2011		Fourth International Multi-Conference, pp. 1-5 (2009).
2012/0102022	A 1 15	4/2012	726/7	R. Battle et al., "Bridging the Semantic Web and Web 2.0 With
2012/0102022	A1 *	4/2012	Miranker G06F 17/30427	Representational State Transfer (REST)", BBN Technologies, pp.
			707/713	1-9 (2007).
2012/0173515	Al*	7/2012	Jeong G06F 17/30569	T. Berners-Lee, "Linked Data—Design Issues", [http://www.w3.org/
			707/718	
2012/0254102	A1*	10/2012	Li G06Q 10/10	DesignIssues/LinkedData.html] pp. 1-9, (2006).
			706/58	W. Jones et al., "Resprtable Rest Services Interfaces", Version 3.0
2012/0303668	A1*	11/2012	Srinivasan et al 707/792	[http://open-services.net/pub/Main/ReportingHome/Reportable_
2013/0054623	A1*	2/2013	Chang G06F 17/30265	Rest_Services_Interfaces-OSLC_Submission.pdf], pp. 1-23
2010/000 1020			707/752	(2009).
2013/0086210	A 1 *	4/2013	Yiu H04L 63/0815	E.Prud'Hommeaux, et al. "SPARQL Query Language for RDF",
2013/0000210	Δ1	4/2013	709/217	Hewlett-Packard Laboratories, W3C Recommendation, pp. 1-88
2012/0205020	414	0/2012		(2008).
2013/0205028	A1 *	8/2013	Crockett G06F 9/5027	
			709/226	D. Berrueta et al., "XLST+SPARQL: Scripting the Semantic Web
2013/0318070	A1*	11/2013	Wu G06F 17/30569	with SPARQL Embedded Into XLST Stylesheets", Semnatic Web
			707/722	Conference, pp. 1-6 (2007).
2013/0332473	A1*	12/2013	Ryman G06F 17/30448	
			707/754	* cited by examiner
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·











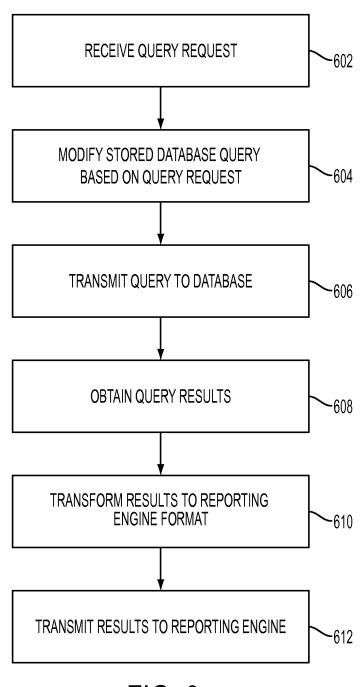


FIG. 6

DATABASE QUERY LANGUAGE GATEWAY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/494,153, filed Jun. 12, 2012, currently issued as U.S. Pat. No. 9,183,265, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

The present invention relates to a database query language gateway, and more specifically, to a gateway configured to convert a query request to a modified SPARQL Protocol and 15 RDF Query Language (SPARQL) query, and SPARQL query results to a reporting engine format.

Reporting engines receive data in a predetermined format and generate reports usable by users and systems using the data. Resource Description Framework (RDF) has emerged 20 as a powerful tool for linking data, and RDF data may be stored and queried in a database to access the RDF data. SPARQL protocol and RDF query language (SPARQL) is a language that allows a user or system to access and query RDF data stored in a database, and are defined by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). However, reporting engines may not be capable of receiving, generating, managing, or interpreting SPARQL data, and the reporting engines may thus be unable to generate reports based on RDF data stored in a database.

SUMMARY

According to one embodiment of the present disclosure, a database query gateway includes a query request interface 35 configured to receive a query request and extract query parameters from the query request, a database endpoint interface configured to modify a stored query based on the query parameters, to transmit the modified query to a database endpoint, and to receive from the database endpoint query 40 results based on the modified query, and a reporting engine interface configured to convert the query results into a reporting engine format.

According to another embodiment of the present disclosure, a system includes a database query endpoint including a 45 database configured to store relational data and a gateway configured to receive a query request in a first format, to modify, by a processor, a stored query in a database query language based on query parameters of the query request to generate a modified query, to transmit to the database query endpoint the modified query, to receive from the database query endpoint query results in the database query language, and to convert the query results from the database query language into a format usable by a reporting engine.

According to another embodiment of the present disclosure, a method includes receiving a query request, generating, by a processor, a modified query in a database query language by modifying a stored query in the database query language based on the query request, transmitting the modified query to a database endpoint, receiving query results in the database query language, and converting by the processor the query results from the database query language to a format usable by a reporting engine.

According to yet another embodiment of the present disclosure, a computer program product includes a processor 65 and memory. The memory is configured to store a computer program executable by the processor to perform a method.

2

The method includes receiving a query request, generating, by a processor, a modified query in a database query language by modifying a stored query in the database query language based on the query request, transmitting the modified query to a database endpoint, receiving query results in the database query language, and converting by the processor the query results from the database query language to a format usable by a reporting engine.

Additional features and advantages are realized through the techniques of the present invention. Other embodiments and aspects of the invention are described in detail herein and are considered a part of the claimed invention. For a better understanding of the invention with the advantages and the features, refer to the description and to the drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

The subject matter which is regarded as the invention is particularly pointed out and distinctly claimed in the claims at the conclusion of the specification. The forgoing and other features, and advantages of the invention are apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of a database query system according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of a gateway according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of a database query system according to an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 4 illustrates a block diagram of a database query system according to another embodiment of the present disclosure;

 $\,$ FIG. 5 illustrates a database query system according to an embodiment of the present disclosure; and

FIG. 6 is a flowchart illustrating a method according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Embodiments of the present disclosure provide a database query language gateway configured to convert query parameters into a query of a database query language query and to convert query results to a reporting engine format to allow a reporting engine to generate a report based on the database query results.

It is understood in advance that although this disclosure includes a detailed description on database queries in a network environment, implementation of the teachings recited herein are not limited to a network environment. Rather, embodiments of the present invention are capable of being implemented in conjunction with any other type of computing environment now known or later developed.

Referring to FIG. 1, a database query system 100 includes a database 110, a database query endpoint 120, a gateway 130, and one or more reporting engines 150 and 155.

The gateway 130 receives a query request and modifies a query in a database query language based on the query request. As illustrated in FIG. 1, query request devices include a user interface device 140 including a user input 141 and a display 142. Examples of user interface devices 140 include personal desktop computers, laptops, mobile computing devices such as personal data assistants, tablet computers, smartphones, or any other device capable of receiving a user input, converting the user input to a digital signal in the form of a query request, and transmitting the query request to the gateway 130.

In one embodiment, the user interface device 140 is configured to provide a web user interface which may be displayed on the display 142 and with which the user may interact via the user input 141. The user may configure the gateway 130 with the web user interface.

Another example of a query request device is a computer 145 which generates a query request as a result of an operation of a query request program 146, and not based on a user input. The computer 145 may include a processor, memory, and a data interface to interface with the gateway 130. The 10 query request program may be a software program stored in memory and executed by the processor to generate a query request at a certain time and having a pre-programmed query object. In other words, a query request may be generated based on a user input from a user interface 140, or automatically in the process of an executing program being executed by a computer 145. In one embodiment, the computer 145 uses a REST application programming interface (API) to configure the gateway 130.

Reporting engines **150** and **155** include report generators 20 **151** and **156**, respectively, configured to generate reports. In particular, reporting engines **150** and **155** are configured to receive raw data and organize the raw data into a predetermined reporting format for storage, display, printing, or performing any other process. The report may be, for example, 25 an html file, a pdf file, word processing document, image document, any other electronically storable file, or any displayable file.

In embodiments of the present disclosure, the user interface 140, computer 145, and reporting engines 150 and 155 may be part of the same device or may be separate devices. For example, the computer 145 may not represent a separate device from the user interface 140, but rather that the computer 145 generates the query request without use of the user interface 140. The query request may be generated using 35 software or hardware corresponding to the reporting engines 150 or 155. For example, a user may open a program utilizing the reporting engine 150 on a computer and may use the user interface 140 to generate a query in the program utilizing the reporting engine 150.

The gateway 130 receives the query request at a query request interface 131 including any query search terms and modifies a pre-stored query in a database query language to generate a query based on the query search terms of the query request. The gateway 130 transmits the query to the database query endpoint 120 via the endpoint interface 132. The database query endpoint 120 receives the query in the database query language at a query interface 123. The database query language at a query interface 123. The database interface 121 queries the database 110 based on the search terms in the query and outputs the results to a query results generator 122, which generates query results. The query results are transmitted from the query interface 123 to the gateway 130, where a reporting engine interface 132 converts the query results to a reporting engine language to communicate with one or more reporting engines 150 or 155.

In embodiments of the present disclosure, the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132, and the reporting engine interface 133 may be software programs stored in memory and executed by a processor to perform interfacing, data processing, data conversion, and other 60 operations. In addition, any one or more of the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132, and the reporting engine interface 133 may include a processor, memory, and any supporting logic required to execute the interfacing, data processing, data conversion, and other operations. In one 65 embodiment, one or more of the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132, and the reporting engine interface

4

133 may share a processor or memory, and in an alternative embodiment, one or more of the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132, and the reporting engine interface 133 may include separate hardware including a processor, memory, and logic circuitry. In one embodiment, the gateway 130 includes local storage 134 that may be accessed by one or more of the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132 and the reporting engine interface 133. For example, the local storage 134 may query and endpoint resources.

In addition, in embodiments of the present disclosure, the database interface 121, the query results generator 122, and the query interface 123 may be software programs stored in memory and executed by a processor to perform interfacing, data processing, query response generation, database searching, data conversion, and other operations. In addition, any one or more of the database interface 121, the query results generator 122, and the query interface 123 may include a processor, memory, and any supporting logic required to execute the interfacing, data processing, query response generation, database searching, data conversion, and other operations. In one embodiment, one or more of the database interface 121, the query results generator 122, and the query interface 123 may share a processor or memory, and in an alternative embodiment, one or more of the database interface 121, the query results generator 122, and the query interface 123 may include separate hardware including a processor, memory, and logic circuitry.

The gateway 130 converts the query results into a reporting engine language with the reporting engine interface 133, and outputs the query results in the reporting engine language. A reporting engine 150 may receive the query results directly from the gateway 130 in the reporting engine language and may generate a report including the query results with a report generator 151. The report may be, for example, an html file, a pdf file, word processing document, image document, any other electronically storable file, or any displayable file.

The reporting engine 155 may be incapable of generating a report based directly on the reporting engine language output by the gateway 130. Accordingly, the reporting engine 155 may include a driver 157 between the reporting engine 155 and the gateway 130 to convert the reporting engine language into a second reporting engine language capable of being used to generate a report by the report generator 156.

Accordingly, as illustrated in FIG. 1, embodiments of the present disclosure provide a gateway 130 configured to receive a query request from one or more sources including a user and a computer program, to generate a query and transmit the query to a database query endpoint 120, and to convert a resulting query response into a format readable or convertible by one or more reporting engines 150 and 155.

Embodiments of the present disclosure include a SPARQL protocol and RDF query language (SPARQL) gateway. In one embodiment, the SPARQL gateway is a software component that enables reporting on Linked Data sources. Linked Data uses Resource Description Framework (RDF) as the data mode for describing resources.

A client of a development tool may request an RDF representation of any development artifact via an HTTP GET request that contains an Accept header for an RDF media type. The representations of many development artifacts from many tools may be stored in an RDF database known as a triple store which integrates the data and enables queries across all the data using the RDF query language SPARQL.

FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of a gateway 200 according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. The gateway 200 may correspond to the gateway 130 of FIG. 1, and may be a SPARQL gateway configured to transmit a modified

SPARQL query to a SPARQL endpoint. The gateway 200 includes a control unit 201 configured to control operations of the gateway, including timing, processing, and input/output operations. The control unit 201 may comprise software executed by a processor, or may comprise any combination of 5 software and hardware including logic circuits, timing circuits, I/O circuits, memory, and other circuitry.

A query parameter collection unit 202 is configured to extract query parameters or conditions from a query request. A query resource unit 203 includes one or more query resources 204 that associate a predefined SPARQL query with an endpoint resource. Each query resource 204 is used to send a query to the endpoint resource to obtain query results, and each query resource 204 may refer to exactly one endpoint resource.

A translation unit 205 is configured to translate query parameters from a query request into a modified query using a predefined SPARQL query of the query resource unit 203. In addition, the translation unit 205 is configured to translate query results into a format usable by a reporting engine. An 20 endpoint resource unit 206 stores one or more endpoint resources 207 including a URL of a SPARQL query service and any credentials, such as user ID's, passwords, etc., necessary to access the SPARQL query service via the URL.

The gateway **200** of FIG. **2** may be configured by a user or 25 by a computer program. When configured by a user, the user may use a Web user interface to configure the gateway **200**. When configured by a computer program, the program may use a REST application API.

In operation, the control unit 201 receives from a reporting 30 engine or other query generating device or program a query request including query parameters and a data service URL. The query parameters may be part of the request sent to the data service URL. The query parameter collection unit 202 obtains the query parameters from the request, and the control 35 unit 201 retrieves from the query resource unit 203 a SPARQL query associated with the data service URL.

The query parameter translation unit **205** translates the incoming query parameters into SPARQL filter statements that are added to the SPARQL query stored in the query 40 resource unit **203**. In other words, in one embodiment, the gateway **200** does not generate the query from scratch, but rather modifies a stored SPARQL query of a query resource **204** in the query resource unit **203** to include conditions defined by the query parameters of the query request.

The control unit **201** transmits the query, including any necessary credentials, to the URL defined by the query, and receives in response query results from an endpoint, such as the database query endpoint **120** of FIG. **1**. The query parameter translation unit **205** converts the query results into a 50 format usable by a reporting engine and transmits the query results to the reporting engine.

FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of a query request system 300 including a SPARQL gateway 330 according to one embodiment of the present disclosure. In FIG. 3, the SPARQL 55 gateway 330 makes a SPARQL query result appear to a reporting engine as a Reportable Representational State Transfer (Reportable REST) data source accessible by the reporting engine as a language for generating a report including the query results data.

In particular, the SPARQL gateway 330 includes a SPARQL interface 331, a reporting engine interface 332, and a query request interface 333. The SPARQL gateway 330 may correspond to the gateway 130 of FIG. 1 and 200 of FIG. 2. The query request interface 333 receives a query request from 65 the query request unit 340. The query request unit 340 may include a user input unit, such as a personal computer, or a

6

program executed by a computer. The query request unit 340 may correspond to the user interface 140 or the computer 145 of FIG. 1

Upon receipt of the query request from the query request unit 340, the SPARQL interface 331 modifies a stored SPARQL query and transmits the modified SPARQL query to the SPARQL endpoint 320. The SPARQL endpoint includes a SPARQL interface 322 to receive the SPARQL query and to access the RDF triples 321 containing RDF data based on the modified SPARQL query. The SPARQL interface 322 returns query results as SPARQL data to the SPARQL interface 331. Upon receipt of the SPARQL data, the gateway 330 converts the SPARQL data with the reporting engine interface 332 to a language corresponding to one or more reporting engines. In one embodiment, the reporting engine interface 332 converts the SPARQL query results into Plain Old XML (PDX) transmitted over REST (REST/PDX). In one embodiment, the gateway 330 includes local storage 334 that may be accessed by one or more of the query request interface 131, the endpoint interface 132 and the reporting engine interface 133. For example, the local storage 134 may query and endpoint resources.

In an embodiment illustrated in FIG. 3, reporting engines include a Business Intelligence and Reporting Tools (BIRT) engine 350, a Rational Publishing Engine (RPE) 355, a Cognos engine 360, and a Microsoft OfficeTM program 365, such as ExcelTM. The SPARQL gateway 330 transmits the REST/PDX data to one or more of the BIRT engine 350, the RPE 355, and the Cognos engine 360 which are configured to receive the REST/PDX data and to generate a report based on the query results using the REST/PDX data. In one embodiment, the BIRT engine 350, RPE 355, and Cognos engine 360 are incapable of generating a report using SPARQL data directly. Accordingly, the gateway 330 generates the SPARQL query and converts the query results to a REST/PDX language accessible by the BIRT engine 350, RPE 355, and Cognos engine 360.

The BIRT engine 350 may include data storage 352 including templates for generating reports and a data processor 351
40 for receiving query results and applying the query results to a BIRT template to provide a BIRT report. The BIRT engine 350 may further include or be connected to a driver 353 to convert XML data output from the SPARQL gateway 330 into Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) data readable by the BIRT engine 350.

The RPE **355** may directly receive the REST/PDX data, and may include data storage **357** including templates, and a data processor **356** to apply the REST/PDX data to the templates to generate an RPE report.

The Cognos engine 360 may include data storage 362 including templates for generating reports and a data processor 361 for receiving query results and applying the query results to a Cognos template to provide a Cognos report. The Cognos engine 360 may further include or be connected to a driver 363 to convert XML data output from the SPARQL gateway 330 into Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) data readable by the Cognos engine 360.

In one embodiment of the present disclosure, the reporting engines 350, 355, and 360, the query request unit 340, the 60 SPARQL gateway 330, and the SPARQL endpoint 320 all include computer programs executed by a processor and including supporting logic, and are all located on separate computers or in separate devices. The SPARQL data, the query request, and the query results may all be transmitted via a network, such as a wired network or a wireless network. In another embodiment, two or more of the reporting engines 350, 355, and 360, the query request unit 340, the SPARQL

gateway 330, and the SPARQL endpoint 320 are located on a same computer or in a same device. For example, a user, computer program, or reporting engine may generate a query request from a computer terminal and may access a server via a network to generate query parameters. The computer terminal may transmit the query request including query parameters to the server to generate a modified query in the server. Query results may be transmitted from the server back to one or more reporting engines 350, 355, or 360 located in the computer terminal.

In yet another embodiment, each of the query request unit 340, the SPARQL gateway 330 and the reporting engines 350, 355, and 360 may be located, stored, and/or executed in the same computer terminal. The computer terminal may transmit a modified SPARQL query to the SPARQL endpoint 320 via a wired or wireless network.

In one embodiment, the SPARQL gateway 330 is a web application. In one embodiment the web application is implepresent disclosure encompass any appropriate web technology to execute the web application. The SPARQL gateway 330 may provides a REST Application Programming Interface (API) and a web User Interface (UI) for managing all of its resources. These include SPARQL endpoints 320 and 25 SPARQL queries. The REST API and web UI support the creation, modification, deletion and retrieval of the resources managed by the SPARQL gateway 330. The web UI delegates actions to the REST API.

The SPARQL gateway 330 may have a base Uniform 30 Resource Identifier (URI) which represents the SPARQL gateway 330 application as a whole. An HTTP GET request may be configured to return useful information about the SPARQL gateway 330 and links to its main resources. The response may be configured to be either HTML or RDF, 35 depending on an Accept header. If HTML is requested, then the SPARQL gateway 330 may provide a very simple user interface for managing the SPARQL gateway 330 and accessing its resources. For example, a SPARQL gateway 330 base URI may be:

http://example.org/gateway

The gateway may manage a set of SPARQL endpoints 320. Each SPARQL endpoint 320 may have a URI that supports the SPARQL protocol. The SPARQL gateway 330 manages other descriptive information about each SPARQL endpoint 45 320, e.g. a title and description, so that users may easily select the SPARQL endpoint 320 that they want to query. An example URI for a set of SPARQL endpoint 320 descriptions may be:

http://example.org/gateway/endpoint

An HTTP GET request on the SPARQL endpoint 320 set URI gives a list of the endpoint descriptions. An HTTP POST to this URI creates a new endpoint description. A URI of a SPARQL endpoint **320** description may be: http://example.org/gateway/endpoint/3

A SPARQL endpoint 320 description may be retrieved, modified, and deleted by sending HTTP GET, PUT, and DELETE requests to its URI. The SPARQL gateway 330 manages a set of SPARQL queries. These may be written by hand or generated by some other tool. The SPARQL gateway 60 330 assigns each query a URI which supports the Reportable REST API. A URI for the set of queries may be: http://example.org/gateway/query

An HTTP GET request on the query may give a list of the queries. An HTTP POST to this URI creates a new query. A 65 URI of a query may be:

http://example.org/gateway/query/42

A query may be retrieved, modified, and deleted by sending HTTP GET, PUT, and DELETE requests to its URI. The SPARQL gateway 330 may make the query behave as a Reportable REST data service. The URI for the data service defined by query 42 may be:

http://example.org/gateway/query/42/dataservice

The SPARQL gateway 330 may manage some metadata about each SPARQL query. This metadata may be inferred by parsing the SPARQL query or it may be provided explicitly with the SPARQL query or by an administrator. For example, when a SPARQL query is a SELECT query, the metadata may include the names and data types of the columns of the result set. The SPARQL gateway 330 may use this metadata to generate an XML Schema to describe the Reportable REST result. It also uses this metadata to generate other artifacts as described below. The URI of the XML schema that describes the Reportable REST data service for query 42 may be: http://example.org/gateway/query/42/dataservice/xsd

When the SPARQL gateway 330 receives an HTTP request mented as a Java servlet, although embodiments of the 20 on a Reportable REST URI associated with a SPAROL query. it may perform the following functions: 1) The SPARQL gateway 330 parses the query parameters on the request URI. These query parameters may be in an XPath syntax defined by the Reportable REST specification. The query parameters specify filtering conditions. 2) The SPARQL gateway 330 may transform the XPath filtering conditions into SPARQL graph patterns and adds then to the WHERE clause of the SPARQL query. 3) The SPARQL gateway 330 may send the modified SPARQL query to the SPARQL endpoint 320. 4) The SPARQL gateway 330 may receive the result of the SPARQL query. 5) The SPARQL gateway 330 may transform the result of the SPARQL query into an XML format that is conformant with the Reportable REST specification and returns it in the HTTP response.

> Accordingly, the SPARQL gateway 330 may provide a means of providing query results from a SPARQL query to a reporting engine to allow the reporting engine, which may not have a SPARQL compatibility, to generate a report based on the SPARQL query.

FIG. 4 illustrates a block diagram of a query request system 400 including a SPARQL gateway 430 according to another embodiment of the present disclosure. The system 400 of FIG. 4 is similar to that of FIG. 3, except the system 400 of FIG. 4 further includes a data source 470 connected to the SPARQL endpoint 420. The data source 470 may be, for example, a web page or group of web pages including RDF data. The data source 470 may include an application 472, such as a web site, and storage 471 to store web page data including the RDF data. The SPARQL endpoint 420 may 50 obtain from the data source 470 some or all of the RDF data from the data source 470, and may store the RDF data in the RDF triples **421** to be accessed by a SPARQL query.

FIG. 5 illustrates a SPARQL query system 500 according an embodiment of the present disclosure. The system 500 may include a user-controlled computer 570 connected to a network 560. The user-controlled computer 570 may include one or more processors, memory, logic circuits, and a user interface to receive a user input to generate a query and to transmit a query request to a gateway 530 or 551. The usercontrolled computer 570 may correspond to the user interface 140 of FIG. 1.

The system 500 may also include one or more servers or computers 510 to run programs to generate query requests. The computer 510 may run the programs to generate query requests without a user input. For example, a computer readable medium, such as a disk or solid-state memory device including a computer program configured to generate a query

request may be provided to the computer **510** to control the computer to automatically generate the query request without user input.

The system 500 may include a gateway 530, 551, or 582. The gateways 530, 551, and 582 may be computer programs stored in memory and executed by a processor and may correspond to the gateways 130, 200, 330 and 430 of FIGS. 1-4, respectively. The gateway 530 may be part of a computer connected to the network 560, and may be in a separate device or computer than the user-controlled computer 570, the computer 510, and the host systems 550 and 580. The gateway 530 may be accessed by the user-controlled computer 570 or computer 510 via the network 560 and may transmit query results to the reporting engine 540 via the network 560.

The system 500 may include one or more host systems 550, 15 580. The host system 550 may comprise a computer, server, local area network (LAN), or other assembly including a gateway 551 and a reporting engine 552. The host system 580 may comprise a computer, server, LAN, or other assembly including a gateway 582, user interface 581, and a reporting engine 583. The user interface 581 may correspond to the user interface 140 of FIG. 1. The reporting engines 552 and 583 may correspond to the reporting engine 150 or the reporting engine 155 of FIG. 1.

The system **500** may further include a server or computer **590** corresponding to the database query endpoint **120** of FIG.

1. The server or computer **590** may include a query interface and database interface. In one embodiment, the server or computer **590** includes a database, and the database interface in the server or computer **590** queries the database within the server or computer **590**. In another embodiment, the system **500** includes data storage **520**, such as volatile memory or non-volatile memory having stored therein a database. The server or computer **590** may query the database stored in the data storage **520** to generate query results.

In other words, in some embodiments one or more of the user interface, gateway, reporting engines, and database query endpoints are stored in a same computer or server. In other embodiments, one or more of the user interface, gateway, reporting engines, and database query endpoints are 40 located in separate devices, housings, or systems and are connectable to each other via a wireless network, wired network, or a combination of the two.

The gateway, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of the above-described embodiments may be operational with numerous other general purpose or special purpose computing system environments or configurations. Examples of well-known computing systems, environments, and/or configurations that may be suitable for use with gateways, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of 60 embodiments of the present disclosure include, but are not limited to, personal computer systems, server computer systems, thin clients, thick clients, handheld or laptop devices, multiprocessor systems, microprocessor-based systems, set top boxes, programmable consumer electronics, network 55 PCs, minicomputer systems, mainframe computer systems, and distributed cloud computing environments that include any of the above systems or devices, and the like.

The gateway, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of the above-described embodiments may be 60 described in the general context of computer system-executable instructions, such as program modules, being executed by a computer system. Generally, program modules may include routines, programs, objects, components, logic, data structures, and so on that perform particular tasks or implement particular abstract data types. The gateway, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of the above-de-

10

scribed embodiments may be practiced in distributed cloud computing environments where tasks are performed by remote processing devices that are linked through a communications network. In a distributed cloud computing environment, program modules may be located in both local and remote computer system storage media including memory storage devices.

The gateway, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of the above-described embodiments may include computer system readable media in the form of volatile memory, such as random access memory (RAM) and/or cache memory. The gateway, database query endpoints, and reporting engines of the above-described embodiments may further include other removable/non-removable, volatile/ non-volatile computer system storage media. By way of example only, storage systems may be provided for reading from and writing to a non-removable, non-volatile magnetic media (not shown and typically called a "hard drive"). Although not shown, a magnetic disk drive for reading from and writing to a removable, non-volatile magnetic disk (e.g., a "floppy disk"), and an optical disk drive for reading from or writing to a removable, non-volatile optical disk such as a CD-ROM, DVD-ROM or other optical media can be provided. In such instances, each can be connected to bus 18 by one or more data media interfaces. Memory may include at least one program product having a set (e.g., at least one) of program modules that are configured to carry out the functions of embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 6 illustrates a method according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. In block 602, a query request is received by a SPARQL gateway. The query request may include a data service URL and query parameters.

In block 604, the gateway may obtain the query parameters from the query request and may modify a stored query based on the query parameters. The SPARQL gateway parses the query parameters on a request URI. The query parameters may be in an XPath syntax defined by the Reportable REST specification, and the query parameters specify filtering conditions. The SPARQL gateway may transform the XPath filtering conditions into SPARQL graph patterns and adds then to a WHERE clause of the SPARQL query.

In block **606**, the gateway transmits the query to a database. The database may be part of a database query endpoint or may be connected to the database query endpoint. In particular, the SPARQL gateway may send the modified SPARQL query to the SPARQL endpoint.

In block 608, the gateway obtains query results from the database or from the database query endpoint. The query results may be in the database query language, or in SPARQL. In block 610, the gateway converts the query results from the database query language into a reporting engine format. The reporting engine format may be a REST/PDX format. In block 612, the gateway transmits the query results to the reporting engine, which generates a report based on the query results.

Providing as an example, implementation of one embodiment, an RDF database may have a list of all the cities in the world and all the countries in which the cities are located. A SPARQL query may be generated in a gateway to return all cities and the corresponding countries. The SPARQL query may be associated with the RDF database.

A query request may be generated by a reporting engine or other query request source to determine all the cities in Canada. For example, a user may access a web page corresponding to the gateway and may select "Canada" from a list of countries provided on the web page and corresponding to a SPARQL query stored in the gateway and associated with

the RDF database. The gateway may modify the stored SPARQL query to search from cities in all countries of the world to limit the query to only cities in Canada based on the user selection. In other words, the gateway extracts the "Canada" parameter from the query request and rewrites the stored SPARQL query to filter the query results to return only the cities of Canada.

A gateway may be configured to include any number of pre-stored SPARQL queries that may be modified by query requests. Once the SPARQL query is generated and stored in the gateway, the SPARQL query may be accessed and modified any number of times in subsequent query requests.

Embodiments of the present disclosure encompass a gateway configured to generate a query in a database query language, obtain query results, and convert the query results into a reporting engine format. Embodiments of the present disclosure further encompass assemblies, systems, and methods configured to generate a query in a database query language, obtain query results, and convert the query results into a reporting engine format. Accordingly, multiple different types of reporting engines which are not configured to communicate with a database are able to obtain database query results from a same query or different queries by means of a gateway to convert query results into a format accessible by the reporting engines.

The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting of the invention. As used herein, the singular forms "a", "an" and "the" are intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. It will be further understood that the terms "comprises" and/or "comprising," when used in this specification, specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps, operations, elements, and/or components, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one more other features, integers, steps, operations, element components, and/or groups thereof.

The corresponding structures, materials, acts, and equivalents of all means or step plus function elements in the claims 40 below are intended to include any structure, material, or act for performing the function in combination with other claimed elements as specifically claimed. The description of the present invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description, but is not intended to be exhaus- 45 tive or limited to the invention in the form disclosed. Many modifications and variations will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. The embodiment was chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the inven- 50 tion and the practical application, and to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the invention for various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated

The flow diagrams depicted herein are just one example. 55 There may be many variations to this diagram or the steps (or operations) described therein without departing from the spirit of the invention. For instance, the steps may be performed in a differing order or steps may be added, deleted or modified. All of these variations are considered a part of the 60 claimed invention.

While the preferred embodiment to the invention had been described, it will be understood that those skilled in the art, both now and in the future, may make various improvements and enhancements which fall within the scope of the claims 65 which follow. These claims should be construed to maintain the proper protection for the invention first described.

12

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method of corresponding by a database endpoint and a gateway, comprising:
 - receiving, by the gateway, a query request based on a user input, wherein the query request includes query parameters and a data service uniform resource locator;
 - extracting, by the gateway, the query parameters from the query request;
 - translating, by the gateway, the query parameters from the query request into a database query language;
 - generating, by the gateway, a modified query including the query parameters in the database query language;
 - transmitting, by the gateway, the modified query to the database endpoint;
 - receiving, by the database endpoint, the modified query from the gateway;
 - accessing, by the database endpoint in response to receiving the modified query from the gateway, data of a database based on the modified query;
 - generating, by the database endpoint, query results in the database query language in accordance with the accessing of the data,
 - wherein the database endpoint is external to the gateway and the database.
 - wherein the database is external to the gateway;
 - receiving, by the gateway, the query results in the database query language in response to the modified query;
 - converting, by the gateway, the query results from the database query language to a format executable by a reporting engine;
 - transmitting, by the gateway, the query results in the format executable by the reporting engine to the reporting engine; and
 - generating, by the reporting engine, a report in direct correspondence with the query request, based on the query results, and in response to receiving the query results from the gateway,
 - wherein the format is a reporting engine compatible format that enables the report to be generated by the reporting engine,
 - wherein the receiving of the query request includes parsing, with a processor of the gateway, the query parameters,
 - wherein the query parameters are defined by a Reportable Representational State Transfer (Reportable REST) specification.
 - wherein the query parameters specify filtering conditions, wherein the generating of the modified query includes transforming the query parameters into SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language (SPARQL) graph patterns, retrieving a SPARQL query associated with the data service uniform resource locator, and adding the SPARQL graph patterns to the SPARQL query to generate a modified SPARQL query, and
 - wherein the reporting engine, which is not configured to communicate with the database, obtains the query results via the gateway.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the query request is received in a Reportable Representational State Transfer (Reportable REST) format.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the database query language is SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language (SPARQL).
 - 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
 - querying resource description framework data in a resource description framework triples database based on the modified SPARQL query.

- **5**. The method of claim **1**, wherein the format executable by the reporting engine is an XML format that is conformant with the Reportable REST specification.
- **6.** The method of claim **1**, wherein a query resource unit of the gateway includes one or more query resources that associate a predefined query with an endpoint resource of a plurality of endpoint resources,

wherein each query resource is utilized to send the modified query to the endpoint resource to obtain the query results.

- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the database endpoint accesses an endpoint resource in support of receiving the modified query.
 - 8. The method of claim 1, wherein: the gateway adds a WHERE clause to the SPARQL query. 15

* * * * *